

Service Date: October 7, 1988

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE REGULATION
BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF MONTANA

* * * * *

IN THE MATTER of the Application)	UTILITY DIVISION
of TREASURE STATE PIPELINE COMPANY)	DOCKET NO. 88.9.30
for Authority to Decrease Rates)	INTERIM ORDER NO. 5362
and Charges for Natural Gas)	
Service.)	
_____)	

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. On September 26, 1988, Treasure State Pipeline Company (Applicant, TSP, Company) filed an application seeking authority to decrease rates for natural gas service. The application sought authority to decrease rates in order to reflect lower purchased gas costs due to connection of a new source of supply. Prior to this application, TSP bought 100 percent of its gas from Montana Power Company. Now the town of Sunburst will be served by gas from a firm named J. R. Bacon Drilling. This new source of gas will cost \$1.90 per Mcf versus \$3.186 per Mcf from Montana Power Company. Sunburst represents approximately 65 percent of the total load of TSP. Sweetgrass will continue to be served by Montana Power Company gas. Treasure State Gas is proposing to reduce their rate for natural gas from \$6.6723 per Mcf to \$5.7934 per Mcf.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. Applicant is a "public utility" within the meaning of Section 69-3-101, MCA.

2. The Montana Public Service Commission properly exercises jurisdiction over the Applicant's Montana operations pursuant to Title 69, Chapter 3, MCA.

3. Section 69-3-304, MCA, provides in part, "The Commission may, in its discretion, temporarily approve increases or decreases pending a hearing or final decision."

4. The rate levels and spread approved herein are reasonable.

ORDER

1. Applicant is hereby granted the requested decrease on an interim basis, reflecting the Findings of Fact in this Order.

2. Such decrease is to become effective for services rendered on and after October 3, 1988, and remain in effect until such time as a final decision is reached in this matter.

DONE IN OPEN SESSION at Helena, Montana, this 3rd day of October, 1988, by a 5 - 0 vote.

Treasure State- Docket No. 88.9.30, Interim Order No. 5362 3

BY ORDER OF THE MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

CLYDE JARVIS, Chairman

HOWARD L. ELLIS, Commissioner

TOM MONAHAN, Commissioner

DANNY OBERG, Commissioner

JOHN B. DRISCOLL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Carol A. Frasier
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)

NOTE: Any interested party may request that the Commission reconsider this decision. A motion to reconsider must be filed within ten (10) days. See 38.2.4806, ARM.